

How to close a Windows App on a Computer Running Windows 8/8.1

Many of the Apps available with Windows 8/8.1 are interesting and easy to run. However, Apps for Windows 8/8.1 do not have the traditional “Close” option found in most window-based programs, i.e., either an X in the upper right hand corner, or an option to click on “File,” then close. This Instructable will show users how to close a Windows App on a computer running Windows 8 or Windows 8.1.

I begin the Instructable by opening a program from my START Screen. In this case the App I am opening is Microsoft Mahjong. As you can see, I am at the “START” Screen for Windows 8/8.1



This picture demonstrates that the App, Microsoft Mahjong, is running on the computer.



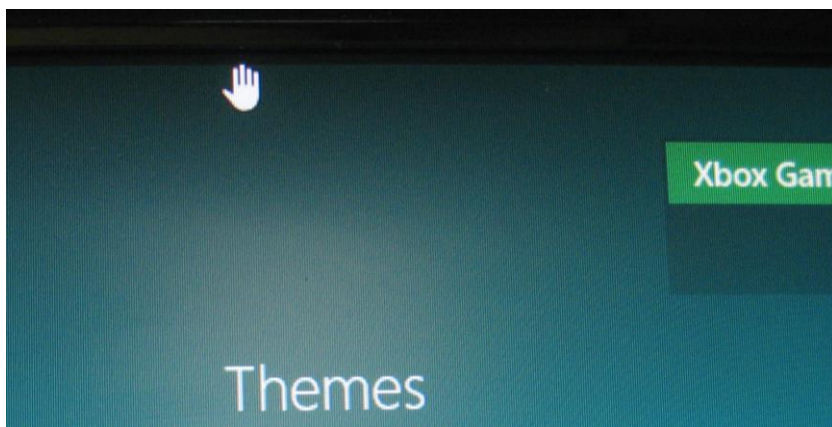
Once you are done with your App you are ready to close the App.

Step 1:

Move your mouse to the very top of your screen until it turns into the shape of a hand.



This picture is a close-up of the mouse in the shape of a hand. As you can see, the mouse-hand appears to be open and flat.

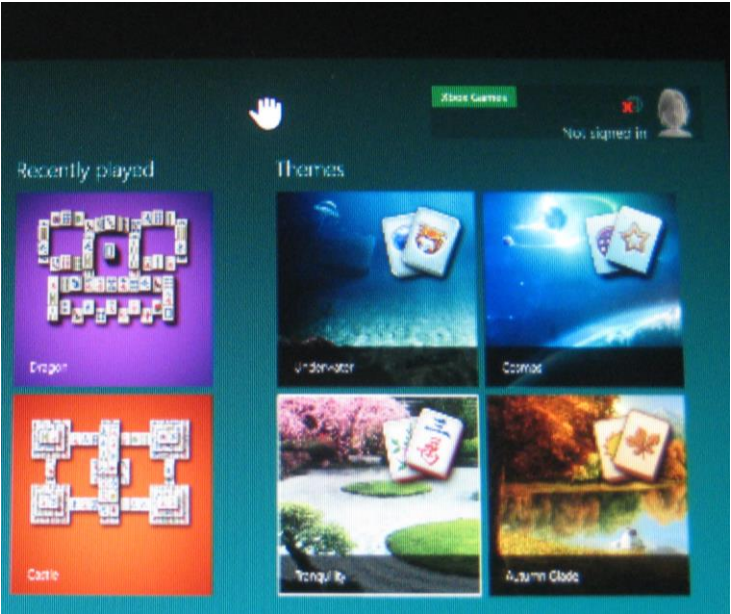


Step 2: With the mouse at the top of the screen, click and hold the left mouse button (you will need to keep holding the mouse button for the next steps and until the app is closed).

Now the mouse-hand should change its shape to look like it is grabbing something.

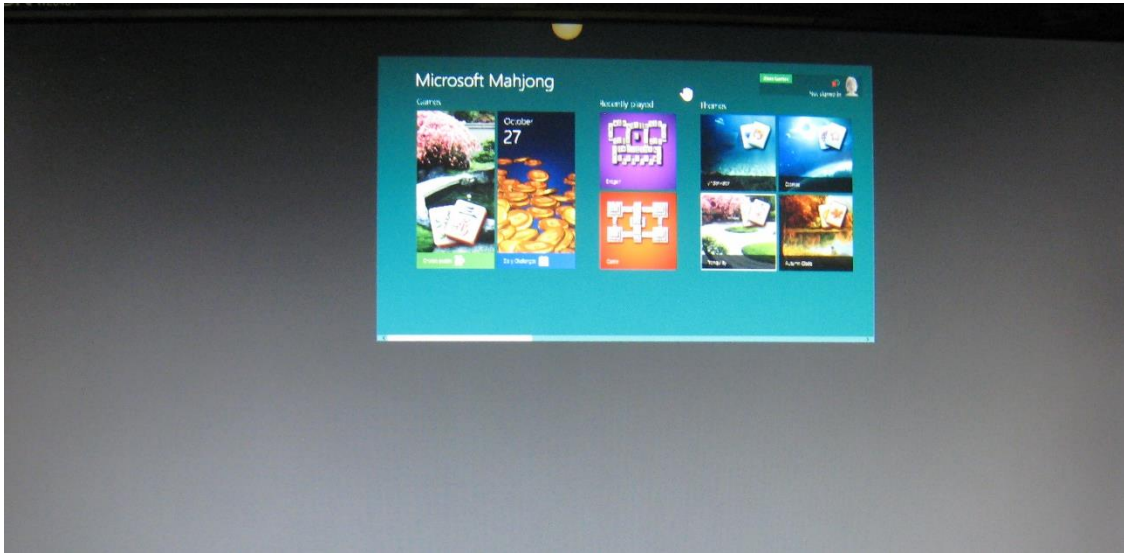


As you can see, the mouse-hand appears to be grabbing something.

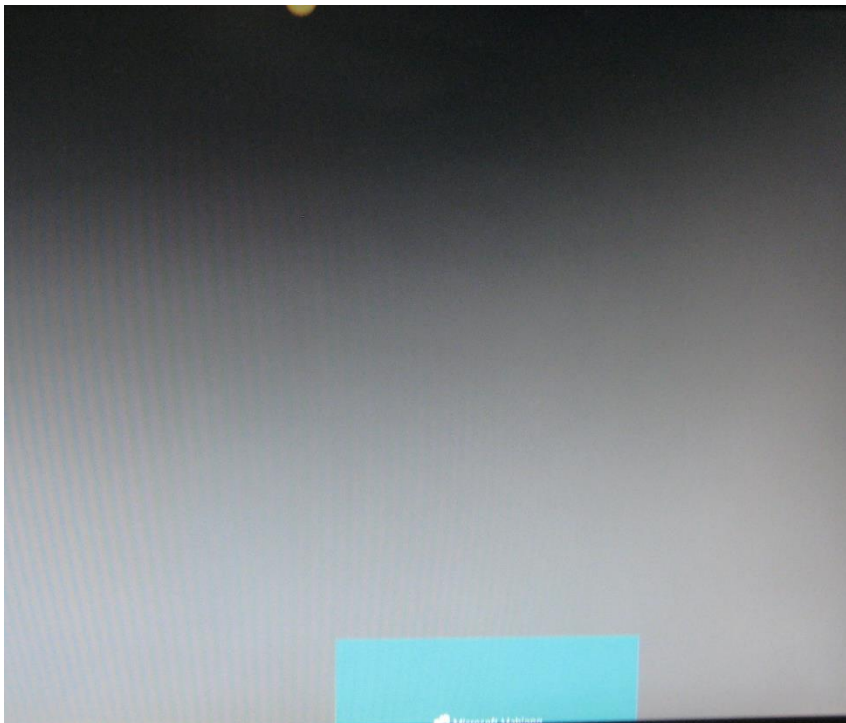


Step 3: While still holding the left mouse button, move the mouse toward the bottom of the screen, do not let go yet.

You will notice the app window has become smaller as you move the mouse down toward the bottom of the screen.



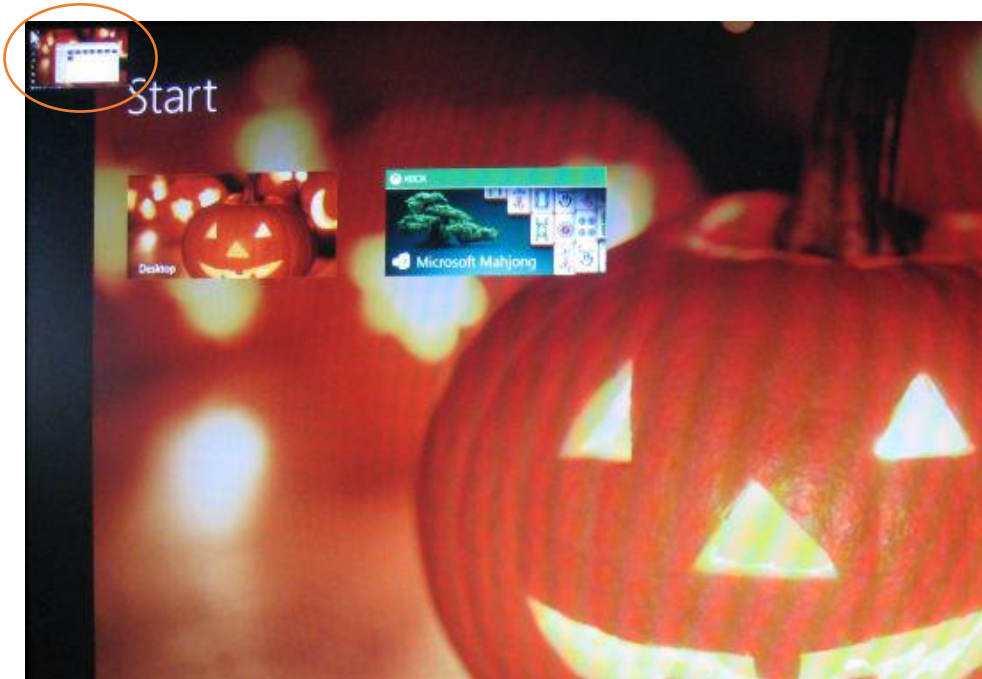
Step 4: When the app reaches the bottom of the screen, release the left mouse button.



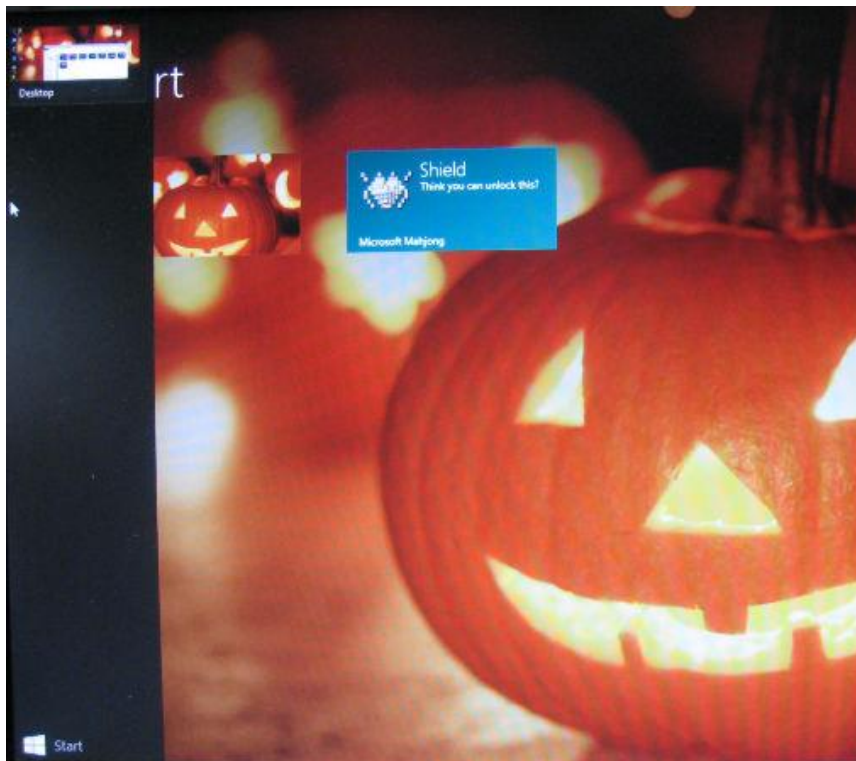
Once you release the left mouse button, the app will be closed and the computer will return to the Start Menu screen. The next step will show you how to verify that the app has closed.

Step 5: Move your mouse pointer to the far upper-left corner of the screen.

As you can see, once you move your mouse to the upper-left corner, Windows 8/8.1 will activate the area of the screen that allows you to see what apps are currently running.



Step 6: With your mouse still in the upper-left portion of the screen, move the mouse down just a little.



This will show you the entire area reserved for App's that are running in the background, along with the name of the app. As you can see, the only app running is the "Desktop." If the Microsoft Mahjong app was still running it would show here.

Good luck and enjoy your Microsoft Apps!